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Washington LABOR MARKET

Washington State
Employment Security
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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

January 1992

Highlights

Out More Like A Lamb Than A Lion

The most recent holiday season contrasted sharply with the prior one in many respects. December of 1990 witnessed some of the most severe winter conditions in years. Many holiday shoppers found themselves unable to get home, let alone trek off to the malls. And fourth quarter taxable retail sales in real terms were basically flat when stacked up against a year before. This year, Washington was beset with comparatively warm and wet weather conditions (a possible El Nino according to the U.S. Weather Service). Malls were generally crowded and, try as he may, the Recession Grinch could not fully snatch the holiday spirit out of the pockets of regional shoppers.

Volume 16, Number 1

Though some wags claim that the *Bag-Index* (the number of parcels and bags actually carried home) did not bode well for retailers, many mid-priced and discount outlets did a brisk business. Value was the name of the game, and the war-cry of the shopping public was, "Only fools pay full retail price!" While the recession stayed very much on the minds of consumers, the reality of Washington's better-than-national performance and end-of-the-year bonuses finally tipped the scale.

Retailers, nonetheless, remained cautious throughout the season. Consumer confidence coming into the period had dropped to lows not seen since the 1981-82 recession. And retailing generally was lethargic. Sales were instituted early to attract volume and hiring was kept close to the vest. The bottom line was probably a better performance than a year ago for retailers generally, despite the ominous clouds coming into the season.

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

December's rate of joblessness rose both seasonally and even after adjusting for seasonality. It is to be expected that unemployment takes a significant jump in the fall and winter months when outdoor activities become impaired by inclement weather. But, when joblessness increases even after adjusting out the normal seasonal pattern, there is no doubt but what the economy is soft. Such was the case in December when the unemployment rate in Washington mounted sharply to 6.9 percent - the highest for the month in four years. The final quarter of the year showed three successive months of increasingly greater unemployment and the seasonally adjusted rate rose four successive months to a high of 6.8 percent in December.

Because of the high degree of seasonality in Washington's economy, the non-adjusted unemployment rates are comparable only year-over-year. Seasonally adjusted rates, on the other hand, are comparable from month-to-month. With that in mind, the last time Washington's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.8 percent was in

December 1987. However, at that time the rate was trending down; as of December 1991, it was trending higher.

It is likely that Washington's labor market boom has run its course. For almost two years, the state unemployment rate had bettered that of the nation. There were even several months in which Washington's jobless rate fell below the national average by as much as a full percentage point. Throughout the fall, and particularly in December, the rates converged. This appears to represent a return to a more traditional labor market setting in which the unemployment swings of the seasonal industries are not being camouflaged by outsized growth in the balance of the state.

Resident Civilian Labor Force
Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	Dec 1991 *Preliminary*	Nov 1991 *Revised*	Dec 1990
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,491,600	2,459,500	2,533,500
Employment	2,320,300	2,304,900	2,391,000
Unemployment	171,300	154,600	142,500
Unemployment Rate	6.9%	6.3%	5.6%
National Unemployment Rate	6.8%	6.6%	5.9%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Nonfarm wage and salary employment dropped in December by 16,700 - the heaviest for the month on record. Roughly 4,300 of the total represented the loss of election workers hired briefly in November. Still, the balance remained sizable. Losses in government (-4,600 aside from election workers) and construction (-3,100) were fairly typical for the period. Adjustments in state and local education (-2,300) largely reflected timing between quarters at colleges and universities. And cutbacks in the building trades (-2,000) and transportation services were also basically seasonal in nature.

The biggest change from past Decembers was the relatively modest buildup which took place in retail trade. Additions of 2,500 were recorded for the month rather than 6,500 which were commonplace in the previous five years. The

result was less than normal offset at a time of sharp seasonal retrenchment elsewhere in the economy. For the most part, consumer caution was the watchword of 1991 and retailers simply responded accordingly.

Services Balance Out

Services payrolls were basically unchanged. Employment inched higher by 100 workers on balance as the month-to-month pattern of individual industries largely countered one another. Losses in temporary help services (-900), agricultural services (-400) and private education (-400) were purely seasonal trends typical for the month of December. Likewise, a gain of 500 in amusement and recreation reflected wintertime buildup on the area's ski slopes.

Health services, meanwhile, mounted by 600 over the month. And over-the-year registered 6,800 workers higher - the biggest increase of any private sector of the economy. Staffing in the industry has jumped at a 4.5 percent compound annual rate in the past five years and continues virtually unabated to the present. All major groupings have contributed at practically the same pace. Additional hospital and clinic space is being put in place and specialized treatment facilities are proliferating. Not only is demand being pushed by a growing and aging population but a quantum leap in public awareness of preventative health care and current health care issues.

Manufacturing Toes The Line

Payrolls in manufacturing fell 4,100 in December. Most of the month-to-month reduction centered in food processing (-2,600) and lumber and wood products(-900) owing to the particular time of year. But adding to the total was a 400-worker drawdown in aerospace - the fourth straight monthly pullback from a high of 117,100 in August. Weakness in the military and space portions of the business are largely behind the numbers. Although some slippage in the 737 production levels is also scheduled for 1992.

Boeing just recently announced plans to cut 6,500 workers from its company payrolls in Washington over the next 12 months. If fully a reduction in force, this would translate

into the first significant cutback for the aerospace giant in nine years. But normal attrition should take up much of the slack. And that alone should lessen the overall impact.

Moreover, any adjustment is against a very high base. Aerospace employment built to an all-time peak of 118,700 in January 1990 and still registers in the neighborhood of 116,000. Boeing's commercial backlog, excluding options, totals 1,665 planes - roughly four years of steady production - even taking into account recent pullbacks by United and American Airlines. Further holding up the total is the fact that 60 percent of the backlog is to foreign buyers, which at present are performing stronger than their U.S. counterparts.

In the latest released long-range forecasts, Boeing perceives no deterioration in the prospect of commercial aviation growth. It expects a three-fold increase in passenger traffic by 2010 and worldwide aircraft sales totalling $857 billion over the next 18 years. Boeing dismissed the current aviation slump as a short-term aberration. And predicts that passenger loads on domestic flights would be rising between 5 and 7 percent by 1994 and 8.6 percent overall. Boeing assumes it will capture 55 percent of total commercial aviation sales with McDonnell Douglas at 20 percent and Airbus Industrie at 16 percent.

Over-The-Year Comparisons Soften

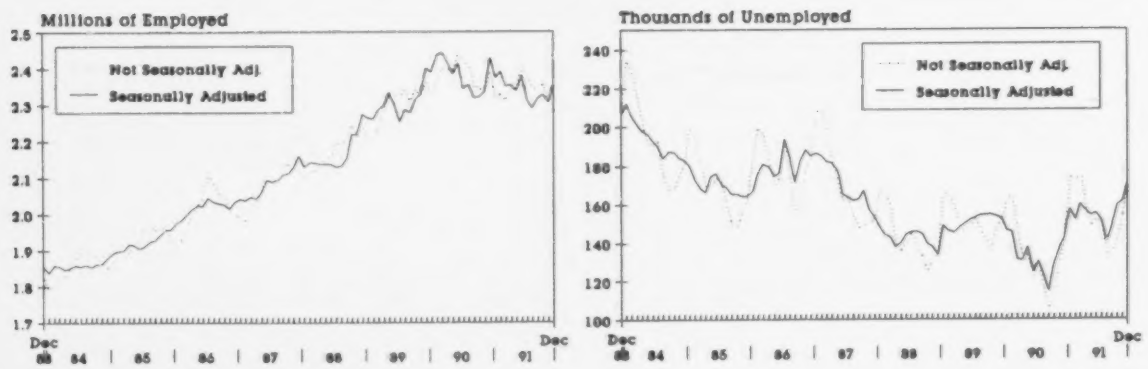
Washington's nonfarm employment was down 15,900 workers in the 12 months ending in December. This was the second month in a row with lower than prior-year job totals after eight years of year-to-year gains. Construction (-10,600) and trade (-13,700) have led the shortfall, with manufacturing off by 6,800 workers. Only services (+4,300) and government (+15,800) showed positive year-over-year job growth in the latest month.

Manufacturing has been a mixed bag ever since the economic slowdown began. However, in contrast to sharp retrenchment nationally, many key sectors in Washington have held up well. Understandably, lumber and wood products employment (-2,700) is off. Likewise, some softness has come in primary metals (-800) and industrial machinery (-1,600). But high-tech manufacturing has held

its own: aerospace, electronics and instruments. And gains have been realized in printing and publishing (+500) and the Hanford portion of chemicals and allied products (+500).

These are the reasons why Washington, by and large, has skirted the brunt of the national recession. Impacts coming out of the downturn have been selective both in terms of industries and in terms of areas affected. Certainly, housing and retailing mirror the broader economic picture. And those industries serving predominately national markets have been hit. But offsetting those trends has been the growth in export markets and continued high levels of net inmigration. Services capacity in the state has proceeded to expand and the degree of relative stability in major portions of manufacturing has been a major plus.

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment
December 1983 - December 1991



Source: Employment Security Department

AREA TRENDS

Ratcheting To Seasonal Highs

The eastern side of the state took its typical fall-to-winter respite. Twelve of the twenty counties recorded unemployment rates in double-digits for December, reflecting the heavy dependency of the area on the resource-based industries of agriculture and forest products. The average rate heightened over the month from 8.8 percent to 9.7 percent - up one percentage point from a year before.

Even more dramatic was the swing over-the-month in the those counties officially designated as timber-dependent. Area unemployment jumped from 9.5 percent to 11.1 percent in December and registered better than one-and-a-half percentage points greater than a year before. The range was from 8.8 percent in Cowlitz County to 23.4 percent in neighboring Skamania County. Most were in double-digits.

In contrast, the metropolitan areas moved less owing to more diversified economies. Unemployment on average heightened by half a percentage point from 5.8 percent to 6.2 percent in December. The Seattle PMSA had the lowest jobless rate in the state at 5.1 percent, with Spokane and Tacoma at 6.5 percent and 7.0 percent, respectively. Most of the others clustered near the statewide average with the exception of farm-dominated Yakima and the Franklin County portion of the Tri-Cities, both ratcheting to seasonal highs.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	Dec 1991	Nov 1991	Dec 1990
Washington State Total	6.9%	6.3%	5.6%
Metropolitan Areas	6.2%	5.8%	5.0%
Log & Lumber Areas	11.1%	9.5%	9.5%
All Western WA Areas	6.1%	5.6%	4.8%
All Eastern WA Areas	9.7%	8.8%	8.7%

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

PACCAR's Plant Now A-Go

Pacific Car and Foundry's planned new $80 million heavy truck plant in Renton will go into construction beginning in March. When completed in about a year, the facility will employ up to 800 workers. Some of the staffing will simply be transferred from the existing Tukwila plant - the size of the remaining work force will depend upon existing market conditions. Paccar had sought to build an additional plant on the site in 1989 but shelved the plans when the heavy truck business turned down with the recession.

Putting Numbers on the Homebuilding Slide

Construction of new homes in the central Puget Sound area last year plummeted to the lowest in a decade. Compared to 1990, the number of single-family building permits issued in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties dropped by approximately a quarter in each county. Even heavier was a hit of 66 percent, 80 percent and 84 percent, respectively, on multifamily construction. Builders charge not only the recession but stringent financing requirements as the cause for the shortfall in 1991. Demand is expected to push apartment vacancy rates in the tri-county area below 5.5 percent this spring and put added pressure on rents.

United Reviews Its Options

Boeing's number one customer - United Airlines - has delayed $6.7 billion in orders and options as a result of the current economic slump. United suffered record losses in 1991 and will defer purchasing 122 Boeing aircraft - mostly 737 and 757 jetliners - beginning in 1993. By deferring options, United's action does not materially affect Boeing's backlog of firm orders which at the end of 1991 totaled $97.9 billion.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

GDP Looking Better

The nation's economy grew at a slightly better pace in the final quarter of 1991 than originally estimated. The Commerce Department's latest revision of real gross domestic product pegs the gain for the last three months of the year at 0.8 percent rather than 0.3 percent. Much of the upward adjustment came from a buildup of inventories - not a particularly encouraging sign. However, total output of goods and services has now expanded for three consecutive quarters, growing at rates of 1.4 percent, 1.8 percent and 0.8 percent. Meanwhile, inflation remains well under control with the GDP deflator rising over the quarter at an annual rate of only 1.7 percent - the best since 1965.

But Not Yet Out Of The Woods

At the same time, the nation's index of leading indicators fell 0.3 percent in December. This marked the third decline in four months and the second in a row for the official gauge of future economic activity. The pattern basically reinforced analysts' perceptions that the economy will not turnaround significantly until sometime before late spring or early summer. Only housing is showing notable signs of life, buoyed principally by low interest rates.

Exports To The Fore

Foreign exports are credited with undergirding the economy at a time of sharp pullback in domestic demand. Economic output of the U.S. fell 0.7 percent on average in 1991. But exports surged almost 7 percent. Sales to the 12-nation European Community soared 8.5 percent in the first seven months of last year to an annual level of $105 billion, outpacing exports to Canada ($85 billion) and Japan ($49 billion). High-technology exports, including aircraft and electronics, topped the list in terms of export growth over the year. And the weak U.S. dollar should contribute to further gains in 1992.

Consumer Price Index
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
U.S. City Average	Dec 91	Nov 91	Dec 90	Nov 91	Dec 90
	137.9	137.8	133.8	0.1%	3.1%
Seattle†	Jan-Jun 1991	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990
	133.0	129.4	124.2	2.8%	7.1%

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Dec 1991 (Prel)	Nov 1991 (Rev)	Dec 1990 (Rev)	Nov 1990 (Rev)	Numeric Change Nov 1991 to Dec 1991	Numeric Change Dec 1990 to Dec 1991
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,176.6	2,193.3	2,192.5	2,204.8	-16.7	-15.9
Manufacturing	359.0	363.1	365.8	370.1	-4.1	-6.8
Durable Goods	251.5	253.4	258.5	260.1	-1.9	-7.0
Lumber & Wood Products	36.1	37.0	38.8	39.5	-0.9	-2.7
Logging	8.6	8.9	9.7	10.0	-0.3	-1.1
Sawmills & Plywood	24.0	24.5	25.4	25.8	-0.5	-1.4
Furniture & Fixtures	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.2	-0.1	-0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.6	-0.2	-0.1
Primary Metals	12.0	12.0	12.8	12.9	0.0	-0.8
Aluminum	8.5	8.5	8.9	8.8	0.0	-0.4
Fabricated Metals	12.2	12.4	12.4	12.5	-0.2	-0.2
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	18.9	19.0	20.5	20.4	-0.1	-1.6
Computer & Office Equipment	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.5	0.0	-0.4
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.7	-0.1	0.0
Transportation Equipment	129.1	129.5	130.2	130.5	-0.4	-1.1
Aircraft & Parts	116.3	116.7	116.4	116.6	-0.4	-0.1
Instruments & Related	13.7	13.7	13.6	14.0	0.0	0.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.5	6.4	6.8	6.8	0.1	-0.3
Nondurable Goods	107.5	109.7	107.3	110.0	-2.2	0.2
Food & Kindred Products	35.7	38.3	36.3	39.0	-2.6	-0.6
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	11.6	13.9	11.2	13.8	-2.3	0.4
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.3	0.0	-0.3
Paper & Allied Products	17.8	17.8	17.7[2]	17.7[2]	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing	23.2	22.8	22.7	22.7	0.4	0.5
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.9	13.9	13.4	13.3	0.0	0.5
Petroleum, Coal & Plastics	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.0
Mining & Quarrying	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	-0.1	-0.2
Construction	110.0	113.1	120.6	124.1	-3.1	-10.6
General Building Contractors	31.9	32.3	36.4	37.1	-0.4	-4.5
Heavy Construction, except Buildings	15.1	16.2	15.3	16.8	-1.1	-0.2
Special Trade Contractors	63.0	64.6	68.9	70.2	-1.6	-5.9
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	112.9	114.0	116.3	116.1	-1.1	-3.4
Transportation	78.0	79.1	81.1	81.0	-1.1	-3.1
Trucking & Warehousing	31.4	32.0	33.2	33.2	-0.6	-1.8
Water Transportation	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.7	-0.3	-0.2
Transportation by Air	16.1	15.9	15.7	15.8	0.2	0.4
Communications	24.8	24.8	25.4	25.4	0.0	-0.6
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	10.1	10.1	9.8	9.7	0.0	0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	522.0	521.5	535.7	532.3	0.5	-13.7
Wholesale Trade	126.2	128.2	130.4	130.9	-2.0	-4.2
Retail Trade	395.8	393.3	405.3	401.4	2.5	-9.5
General Merchandise	42.2	40.1	43.3	41.2	2.1	-1.1
Food Stores	63.9	63.9	65.8	65.8	0.0	-1.9
Eating & Drinking	141.6	142.5	144.4	144.6[2]	-0.9	-2.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	117.0	117.0	118.3	118.3	0.0	-1.3
Finance	51.3	51.2	51.7	51.7	0.1	-0.4
Services	530.1	530.0	525.8	525.5	0.1	4.3
Hotels & Lodging	25.1	25.0	26.9	26.9	0.1	-1.8
Personal Services	21.1	21.2	21.8	21.8	-0.1	-0.7
Business Services	87.8	88.3	88.1	89.5	-0.5	-0.3
Health Services	159.6	159.0	152.8	151.7	0.6	6.8
Educational Services	25.4	25.8	24.6	24.9	-0.4	0.8
Social Services	37.5	37.3	35.5	35.3	0.2	2.0
Engineering & Management Services	48.5	48.4	47.0	46.8	0.1	1.5
Government	422.1	431.0	406.3	414.6	-8.9	15.8
Federal	73.0	73.2	71.6	71.7	-0.2	1.4
State	123.9	125.8	118.2	119.1	-1.9	5.7
State Education	65.0	66.6	62.2	63.4	-1.6	2.8
Local	225.2	232.0	216.5	223.8	-6.8	8.7
Local Education	123.3	124.0	118.6	118.6	-0.7	4.7
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.1	0.0	-0.3

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

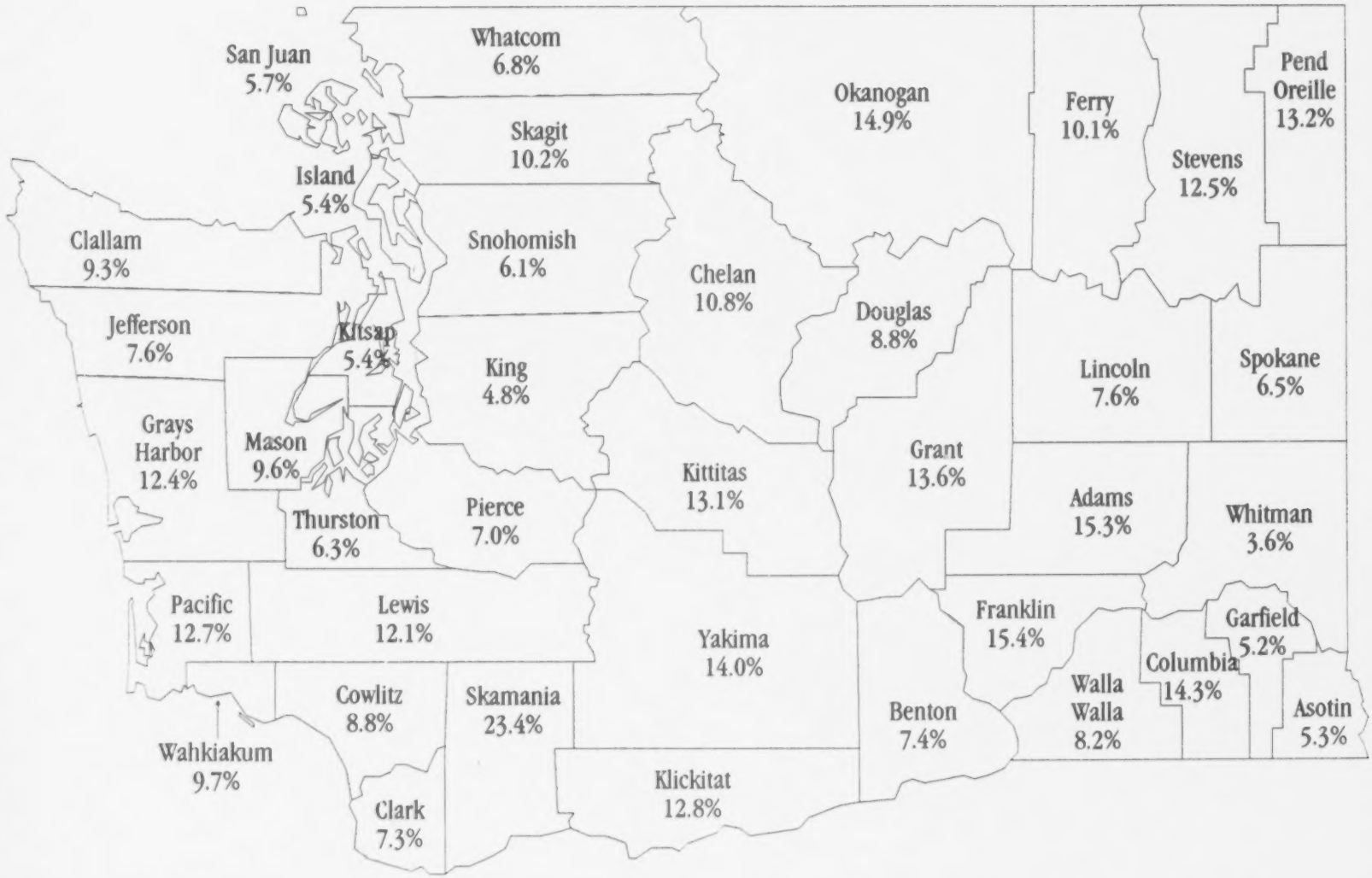
Date: 2/4/92
Benchmark: 1990

Washington Labor Market - 12

	December 1991 Preliminary†				November 1991 Revised†				December 1990 Revised†			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	2,491,600	2,320,300	171,300	6.9	2,459,500	2,304,900	154,600	6.3	2,533,500	2,391,000	142,500	5.6
Bellingham MSA	70,400	65,600	4,800	6.8	69,300	65,100	4,200	6.1	70,200	66,200	4,000	5.7
Bremerton MSA	84,000	79,500	4,500	5.4	83,400	79,200	4,200	5.0	84,300	80,500	3,800	4.5
Olympia MSA	86,200	80,800	5,400	6.3	83,000	78,100	4,900	5.9	85,400	80,800	4,600	5.4
Seattle PMSA	1,129,100	1,071,800	57,300	5.1	1,115,400	1,062,700	52,700	4.7	1,150,100	1,105,400	44,700	3.9
King County ‡	889,700	846,800	42,900	4.8	879,400	839,600	39,800	4.5	906,600	873,400	33,200	3.7
Snohomish County ‡	239,500	225,000	14,500	6.1	236,000	223,100	12,900	5.5	243,500	232,000	11,500	4.7
Spokane MSA	173,700	162,400	11,300	6.5	172,400	161,400	11,000	6.4	176,900	166,400	10,500	5.9
Tacoma PMSA	247,000	229,700	17,300	7.0	244,400	228,800	15,600	6.4	257,300	243,100	14,200	5.5
Tri-Cities MSA	72,500	65,800	6,700	9.2	71,800	65,500	6,300	8.8	73,100	66,800	6,300	8.6
Benton County ‡	55,600	51,500	4,100	7.4	55,100	51,200	3,900	7.1	56,300	52,300	4,000	7.1
Franklin County ‡	16,900	14,300	2,600	15.4	16,600	14,200	2,400	14.5	16,800	14,500	2,300	13.7
Vancouver PMSA	127,500	118,200	9,300	7.3	125,800	117,400	8,400	6.7	130,500	123,700	6,800	5.2
Yakima MSA	95,100	81,800	13,300	14.0	93,900	82,100	11,800	12.6	96,000	84,100	11,900	12.4
Adams	7,390	6,260	1,130	15.3	7,430	6,270	1,160	15.6	7,120	5,930	1,190	16.7
Asotin	9,060	8,580	480	5.3	8,940	8,530	410	4.6	9,570	9,160	410	4.3
Clallam	23,320	21,140	2,180	9.3	22,970	21,140	1,830	8.0	24,290	22,040	2,250	9.3
Columbia	1,400	1,200	200	14.3	1,270	1,100	170	13.4	1,390	1,160	230	16.5
Cowlitz	38,430	35,040	3,390	8.8	37,870	34,790	3,080	8.1	39,390	36,400	2,990	7.6
Ferry	3,180	2,860	320	10.1	3,110	2,830	280	9.0	3,270	3,020	250	7.6
Garfield	960	910	50	5.2	910	870	40	4.4	950	880	70	7.4
Grant	26,820	23,180	3,640	13.6	26,890	23,860	3,030	11.3	25,790	22,820	2,970	11.5
Grays Harbor	26,450	23,170	3,280	12.4	25,570	22,740	2,830	11.1	27,000	24,130	2,870	10.6
Island	22,610	21,390	1,220	5.4	22,220	21,090	1,130	5.1	22,090	21,250	840	3.8
Jefferson	8,890	8,210	680	7.6	8,750	8,170	580	6.6	8,970	8,390	580	6.5
Kittitas	12,770	11,100	1,670	13.1	12,630	11,270	1,360	10.8	11,900	10,790	1,110	9.3
Klickitat	7,870	6,860	1,010	12.8	7,890	7,020	870	11.0	7,670	6,670	1,000	13.0
Lewis	23,650	20,790	2,860	12.1	22,860	20,540	2,320	10.1	25,320	22,830	2,490	9.8
Lincoln	3,930	3,630	300	7.6	3,930	3,670	260	6.6	4,020	3,770	250	6.2
Mason	16,750	15,150	1,600	9.6	15,960	14,810	1,150	7.2	15,740	14,470	1,270	8.1
Okanogan	17,100	14,550	2,550	14.9	16,980	14,760	2,220	13.1	17,150	14,830	2,320	13.5
Pacific	7,570	6,610	960	12.7	7,390	6,580	810	11.0	7,690	7,040	650	8.5
Pend Oreille	3,260	2,830	430	13.2	3,170	2,810	360	11.4	3,290	2,810	480	14.6
San Juan	5,750	5,420	330	5.7	5,770	5,510	260	4.5	5,670	5,480	190	3.4
Skagit	40,610	36,460	4,150	10.2	40,120	36,510	3,610	9.0	40,250	36,870	3,380	8.4
Skamania	2,220	1,700	520	23.4	2,160	1,740	420	19.4	2,220	1,830	390	17.6
Stevens	11,630	10,180	1,450	12.5	11,230	10,050	1,180	10.5	11,400	10,210	1,190	10.4
Wahkiakum	1,240	1,120	120	9.7	1,230	1,130	100	8.1	1,160	1,050	110	9.5
Walla Walla	22,740	20,870	1,870	8.2	22,950	21,360	1,590	6.9	23,550	21,800	1,750	7.4
Wenatchee Labor Area	42,030	37,790	4,240	10.1	41,670	37,850	3,820	9.2	43,630	39,690	3,940	9.0
Chelan County ‡	28,070	25,050	3,020	10.8	27,850	25,100	2,750	9.9	28,940	26,310	2,630	9.1
Douglas County ‡	13,970	12,740	1,230	8.8	13,840	12,760	1,080	7.8	14,700	13,380	1,320	9.0
Whitman	18,300	17,650	650	3.6	18,310	17,690	620	3.4	19,170	18,650	520	2.7

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

December 1991 Unemployment Rates
State of Washington = 6.9%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary November Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Dec 91	Nov 91	Dec 90	Dec 91	Nov 91	Dec 90	Dec 91	Nov 91	Dec 90
Total Manufacturing Industries†	207,747	$558.66	$544.80	$531.33	40.6	40.0	40.1	$13.76	$13.62	$13.25
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	29,607	$512.31	$482.40	$450.79	42.2	40.2	38.3	$12.14	$12.00	$11.77
Primary Metal Industries	9,472	$610.47	$596.90	$593.49	42.9	41.8	43.8	$14.23	$14.28	$13.55
Fabricated Metal Products	9,698	$518.65	$532.06	$516.60	41.0	41.6	41.0	$12.65	$12.79	$12.60
Machinery	18,898	$452.47	$442.86	$453.17	39.9	39.4	40.9	$11.34	$11.24	$11.08
Food and Kindred Products	25,196	$390.77	$378.70	$373.00	36.9	37.2	37.3	$10.59	$10.18	$10.00
Chemical and Allied Products	4,501	$745.73	$723.98	$722.18	44.1	43.3	44.8	$16.91	$16.72	$16.12
Transportation Equipment	56,278	$722.02	$711.78	$677.58	42.1	41.6	41.8	$17.15	$17.11	$16.21
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	83,357	$669.00	$673.74	$635.74	36.9	37.1	36.6	$18.13	$18.16	$17.37
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	464,815	$308.48	$301.13	$295.76	32.1	31.4	31.7	$9.61	$9.59	$9.33

†Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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